



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 976

LCO No. 3544

03544_____HED

Referred to Committee on Higher Education and Employment
Advancement

Introduced by:
(HED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC
DISPARITIES AMONG STUDENTS OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study racial and ethnic disparities among students at institutions of
3 higher education in this state. The task force shall examine racial and
4 ethnic disparities among such students in the following areas: (1)
5 Matriculation at institutions; (2) participation in remediation programs
6 offered by such institutions; (3) retention rates at such institutions; and
7 (4) graduation rates at such institutions.
- 8 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:
- 9 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 10 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- 11 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
12 Representatives;

13 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

14 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
15 Representatives;

16 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

17 (7) The Commissioner of Higher Education, or the commissioner's
18 designee.

19 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
20 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
21 of the General Assembly.

22 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
23 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
24 filled by the appointing authority.

25 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
26 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
27 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
28 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no later
29 than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

30 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
31 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher
32 education shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

33 (g) Not later than January 1, 2010, the task force shall submit a
34 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
35 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
36 relating to higher education, in accordance with the provisions of
37 section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on
38 the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2010, whichever is
39 later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
-----------	---------------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To study racial and ethnic disparities among students of institutions of higher education in this state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]